Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The attention of the Member is invited to the answer to the question No. 87 of the Budget Session of 1104. The work will be taken up when funds permit.

Irrigation facilities in Alur Village.

108. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state with reference to question No. 38 (Irrigation facilities in Alur Village) of the last Budget Session, what further action has been taken by the Government in sanctioning the request contained in the petition?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—Levels have been ordered to be taken for an alternative proposal of the Chief Engineer.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—What is the alternative proposal?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—The alternative proposal is to have a diversion of the channel, and the other is to take the water by means of a pipe line attached to the foot-bridge conveying water from this side of the *thodu* to the other side of the *thodu*. These are the two alternative proposals. In two ways it can be done.

109. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform whether the Chief Engineer received a petition last year from Mr. Choondupurakkal Govindan Unnichira and others in Alur Village requesting to provide some irrigation facilities in their village; and if so, what is the request contained therein and what action has been taken by the Government thereon?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—Yes, from one Mr. Choondupurakkal Konnan Unnichira and others.

The request is for putting up a *chira* in Alur river near Kanjirakundu and for opening a canal as far as Arod (ആറോട്) along the paddy fields for irrigating lands in Kizhakkapadom, Alur desam. The matter is being investigated by the Public Works Department.

Appointment of Village Menons.

110. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state with reference to question No. 40 of the last Budget Session what steps have been hitherto taken by the present Diwan Peishkar to give the sparsely represented classes better representation in the appointment of Village Menons; and

(2) of the Village Menons appointed by him, how many have been selected from each of the five groups referred to in the question?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(1) Instructions have been issued to the Tahsildars with whom the power of appointment of Menons in temporary vacancies not exceeding one month rests

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